

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

**WHITINGS LLP
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
WISBECH, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, ELY, KINGS LYNN,
MARCH, MILDENHALL, PETERBOROUGH,
RAMSEY, ST IVES AND ST NEOTS**

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

TRUSTEES REPORT

For the year ended 31 December 2023

The Whittlesey Charity, Town Hall, Market Street, Whittlesey, is registered with the Charity Commissioners (No. 1005069) and constituted by a Scheme dated 27 June 1990.

The Charity Trustees comprise:-

TRUSTEES:

Claire Rayner	- Chair
Gary Cook	- Finance Officer
Philip Oldfield	
Robin Bailey	
Charles Kitchin	
Philip Green	
Rev Emily Davis	
Sarah Brown	
Susan Bradshaw	
Chloe Smith	

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES:

The objects of the Charity are to provide relief to persons in need and hardship, to promote educational support, support the local churches and also any charitable purpose for the benefit of the inhabitants of the area of benefit, being the Parishes of Whittlesey and district.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR:

During this reporting year the Charity and its Trustees have continued to ensure delivery of the Charity's purposes and effective management including:

- continuing to deal with various aspects of the Charity's land estate:
 - the continuing registration of land holdings to protect the Charity land assets for the future
 - maximising opportunities to attract and invest income: granting easements over Charity land; acquiring and disposing of land in accordance with its Charitable scheme dated 27 June 1990 and Charity Commission guidance; successfully defeating adverse possession claims for Charity land; and continuing to further enhance the Charity's land portfolio for the future benefit of the Charity and its beneficiaries.
 - planned and ad hoc maintenance required to Charity land and assets, particularly the Town Hall and manorial droves and verges including instances of maintenance for landholders as a gesture of good will to the local community.
 - continuing to seek advice as appropriate from the Charity's professional land agents, solicitors and professional advisors for all land transactions and land management advice.
- once again being able to make grants during the year of £46,699 to applicants within our area of benefit.
- continuing to deliver the Trustees' programme of continuous improvement for the Charity to ensure resilience and appropriate ways of working for the benefit of the Charity and its future Trustees. During this year the current Trustees have:
 - invested further in IT to provide appropriate equipment to support current ways of working for the Charity and its Trustees.
 - continued to evolve and embed the use of sub-committees for estate (including the management of the Town Hall), finance, IT, and governance & compliance and have introduced a grants subcommittee.

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

TRUSTEES REPORT (CONT'D)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

REVIEW OF THE YEAR (Cont'd):

- invested resource in the development of a Charity website with associated online forms and information.
- continued to attract new Trustees as vacancies arise and to further develop the knowledge and skills of the current Trustees with information events and meetings.

The Charity has focussed on recruiting Trustees with specific professional skillsets to enhance decisions in its key areas of land management and grant making and to further strengthen the Charity's forward focus on finance, governance and compliance.

- continued to consider professional advice from specialist charity Accountants and Solicitors as they transition the Charity to Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status.

The Charity's move to CIO status has been a focus of activity during this reporting year. The Charity continues to review and update its land assets, policies and procedures in readiness for this change to its status and the Charity's appointed Solicitors continue to liaise with the Charity Commissioners ahead of submission – a draft CIO constitution will be sent to the Charity Commission as part of the application to register the CIO to ensure that the Commission is satisfied that the CIO is being established for purposes recognised as charitable in law and that those purposes continue to benefit the public.

The Charity continues to be satisfied that the Trustees have carried out their responsibilities and obligations to the wide cross section of people and organisations within its area of benefit.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

A surplus, before grants paid, arose on general funds in the year of £31,819 (2022 £32,092).

Various grants were paid during 2023 of £46,699 (2022 £43,560).

Further land was acquired in the year at a cost of £130,000 which will enhance the rental receipts being the prime source of income received by the charity.

The Trustees consider the reserves at 31 December 2023 to be satisfactory in being able to sustain the charities requirements.

For and on behalf of the Trustees

CLAIRE RAYNER - CHAIR

GARY COOK - FINANCE OFFICER

7 October 2024

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

GENERAL FUND

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<u>RECEIPTS:</u>				
Income from Investments:				
Charity Land Rents	61,387		58,292	
Loyalty Rewards	2		-	
Charity Books	60		-	
Hire of Townhall	75		-	
Contribution to Costs	4,050		-	
Wayleave	213		212	
Payment from Jones Land	-	65,787	24,153	82,657
Dividends - Charity Official Investment Fund		6,786		6,760
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>	£	72,573	£	89,417
<u>PAYMENTS:</u>				
Charitable Activities:				
Advertising		180		-
Gas and Electricity		4,712		2,681
Rates		640		666
Insurance		2,361		2,329
Repairs and Renewals		3,112		1,196
Cleaning		1,540		1,086
Clerk's Salary		625		5,000
New Clerk's Salary		7,500		625
Telephone		504		409
Legal and Professional Fees		17,558		19,449
Drainage Work		-		16,361
Sundry Expenses		125		1,760
Computer Equipment		479		1,890
Chairs Expenses		82		-
Clerk's Expenses		130		-
IT Services and Subscriptions		145		-
Wash Willow Prunings Removal		-		2,640
Management and Administration:				
Postage, Stationery and Copying		46		212
Independent Examiner's Fees		900		900
Bank Charges		115		122
<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>	£	40,754	£	57,325
<u>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</u>		31,819		32,092
(Available for distribution) (Note 2)				
Grants made during the year (Note 3)		(46,699)		(43,560)
Purchase of Land at Black Bush Drove		(130,000)		-
Transfer from Manorial Fund		19,877		11,673
<u>NET (PAYMENTS)/RECEIPTS</u> for the year		(125,003)		205
<u>BANK/CASH BALANCE</u> as at 1 January		208,140		207,935
<u>BANK/CASH BALANCE</u> as at 31 December	£	83,137	£	208,140

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

MANORIAL FUND (DESIGNATED)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>RECEIPTS:</u>				
Income from Investments:				
Whittlesey Wildfowlers	1,127		888	
RSPB	10		10	
Black Bush Drove	12,362		-	
Jones Lane	<u>6,178</u>	<u>19,677</u>	<u>6,178</u>	<u>7,076</u>
Interest on Deposit		<u>927</u>		<u>115</u>
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>		20,604		7,191
Transfer to General Funds		<u>(19,877)</u>		<u>(11,673)</u>
<u>NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS) for the year</u>		727		(4,482)
<u>BANK BALANCE</u> as at 1 January		<u>76,197</u>		<u>80,679</u>
<u>BANK BALANCE</u> as at 31 December		<u>£ 76,924</u>		<u>£ 76,197</u>

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

As at 31 December 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Manorial</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>CASH FUNDS:</u>				
Bank Current Account	8,048	-	8,048	188,202
Bank Deposit Account	75,089	76,924	152,013	95,574
Petty Cash	-	-	-	61
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	£ 83,137	76,924	160,061	£ 283,837
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>LIABILITIES:</u>				
Amounts due for supplies and services provided	£ 1,030	-	1,030	£ -
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

NON-MONETARY ASSETS:

Property:

General Fund:

	<u>Trustees Values</u>
264.158 acres of Agricultural Land	2,641,580
Town Hall	400,000
26.755 acres Turf Drove, Turves	219,182
15.29 acres Black Bush Drove	130,000

Manorial Fund:

30.89 acres Half Acre Drove, Jones Lane, Eastrea	260,630
40.40 acres Black Bush Drove	340,000

Other Assets (General Purpose Fund):

Held for investment purposes -
12,456 Income Units - Charity Official Investment Fund Market Value @ 31.12.23 £247,202
(31.12.22 - 12,456 Income Units £226,398).

For and on behalf of the Trustees

CLAIRE RAYNER

-

CHAIR

GARY COOK

-

FINANCE OFFICER

7 October 2024

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING:

The Accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis under Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and the Charity has complied with the appropriate legal requirements of the Act.

2. DIVISION OF FUNDS STATEMENT:

	<u>£</u>
<u>Branch No. 1 Relief in Need</u>	
Balance brought forward	113,945
Share of surplus for year	9,227
Grants made during the year (Note 3)	(1,820)
Purchase of Blackbush Land	(65,000)
Repaid loan from Manorial Fund	19,877
Transfer to Public Purposes	<u>(30,000)</u>
Balance carried forward	£ 46,229
<u>Branch No. 2 Education</u>	
Balance brought forward	87,891
Share of surplus for year	9,228
Grants made during the year (Note 3)	(8,205)
Purchase of Blackbush Land	<u>(65,000)</u>
Balance carried forward	£ 23,914
<u>Branch No. 3 Public Purposes</u>	
Balance brought forward	2,133
Share of surplus for year	9,227
Grants made during the year (Note 3)	(32,502)
Transfer from Relief in Need	<u>30,000</u>
Balance carried forward	£ 8,858
<u>Branch No. 4 Church</u>	
Balance brought forward	4,172
Share of surplus for year	4,136
Grants made during the year (Note 3)	<u>(4,172)</u>
Balance carried forward	£ 4,136
<u>Total</u>	<u>£ 83,137</u>

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

3. GRANTS MADE DURING THE YEAR comprises:

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>No. 1 Relief in Need</u>		
Various awards made		1,820
<u>No. 2 Education</u>		
Megan Brunning	250	
Coates Primary School	550	
Danny King	500	
Emily Sayer	500	
Lydia Sayer	500	
Cambridgeshire ACF Corps of Drums	500	
Whittlesey & District Guides	1,800	
Whittlesey Scouts	850	
Phoenix Youth Provision	2,005	
Whittlesey Junior Football	750	
	<hr/>	8,205
<u>No. 3 Public Purposes</u>		
Whittlesey Christmas Lights	3,000	
Whittlesey Extravaganza	2,000	
Whittlesey Museum Trust	1,500	
Coates Fete on the Green	1,200	
Holiday at Home	1,000	
Ralph Butcher's memorial bench	1,002	
Coates Silver Lining	500	
Whittlesey Festival	2,000	
Fen Hands	300	
Christian Church	2,000	
St Andrew's Church	6,000	
Friends of St Mary's Church	6,000	
Friends of Holy Trinity Church	6,000	
	<hr/>	32,502
<u>No. 4 Church</u>		
Holy Trinity, Coates	834	
St. Mary's PCC	1,669	
St. Andrew's PCC	1,669	
	<hr/>	4,172
		<hr/> <hr/>
		£ 46,699

THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE WHITTLESEY CHARITY

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Whittlesey Charity (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on Pages 3 to 7.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report:

As the Charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement:

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

K J DAY F.C.C.A

**c/o Whittings LLP
Chartered Accountants
12/13 The Crescent
Wisbech
Cambs
PE13 1EH**

7 October 2024